

ARG 1: Minutemen
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PAUL COATES

The Minutemen 'Have a Little List'--and Guess Who's on It

Apparently, I'm on a little list. And I don't know whether to be flattered or frightened.

The other day I received what amounts to a thinly veiled threat from the Minutemen. That's a kind of Mafia for super-duper patriots, harmless nuts and dangerous psychopaths to save the country on their own terms.

They are training an underground army to fight communism street-to-street, door-to-door when the Reds land in Orange County which they expect will be sometime in the very near future.

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While waiting, they have also dedicated themselves to: "Investigate, by means of our own secret memberships, the possible infiltration of Communist sympathizers into American organizations of government, business, labor, religion and education."

In other words, the orderly process of law, the duly constituted armed forces of the United States, the FBI and the local police agencies are not capable of protecting this nation from its enemies. A handful of crackpots considers that it can do the job better.

I say a handful. Maybe I'm wrong. It seems that nobody -- not even the organizers--have accurate figures on the membership in this para-military group.

Robert De Pew, the national boss of the Minutemen, claims law enforcement puts the number of members at 25,000, but that it is considerably more than that. Law enforcement officials believe that the number is con-

siderably less than that.

The reason there can be no accurate roll-call is that the Minutemen operate on the same basis as the Communist Party. They have cells around the county which are not required to submit names of members to the national



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headquarters. These cells engage in what they like to call "undercover" political activity. And, in preparation for that fateful day when the Army, the FBI and the police all run out on us without a fight, the Minutemen have been playing soldier in secret. You play the game with whatever deadly weapons you can beg, borrow or steal.

While the numbers involved might be a mystery, there's revealing information about the calibre of some men who are attracted to this group violence. The leaders of a San Diego cell, Troy Haughton and his one-time right-hand man, William Colley, are both convicted sex offenders, Haughton for indecent exposure and Colley for a homosexual charge involving three small children. Colley later was indicted on a charge of trying to steal government property. He jumped bail

and was re-captured by federal officers.

One of the local boys, Joseph Raymond Carey, was picked up by Burbank police and charged with possession of a machine gun. He, too, jumped bail and is still at large.

According to Texas Congressman Henry Gonzales, who has demanded that federal action be taken to control these characters, they're playing their little game for keeps. He recently charged that the Minutemen have compiled a list of "suspect" persons to be liquidated. Since his own name was on the list, he was concerned. And I sympathize with him. I do so, particularly because I have a feeling my name might be there, too.

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A letter from Headquarters, Esteban Banderas Brigade, Western States Region, Minutemen, informs me, in part: "We have ignored your previous slurs, slanders, distortions and card-stacking against the Minutemen and other patriotic forces... though your tendencies to aid the left may place you in a physically dangerous position should the Marxists succeed in their conspiracy."

Ordinarily, since the threat is conditional on a Marxist take-over, I shouldn't have much to worry about. It seems to me that Marxists have as much chance of taking over this country as the Hohenzollerns do.

But there's ticklish questions of semantics involved. With their peculiar mentality, these people might consider a Goldwater victory in November as a Marxist take-over.